

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S8733–S8836.*

**Measures Introduced:** Twelve bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2410–2421, and S. Res. 337. **Pages S8793–94**

**Measures Passed:**

***TSCA Modernization Act:*** Senate passed H.R. 2576, to modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8781–82**

Inhofe Amendment No. 2932, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8781**

***Joint Session of Congress:*** Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 102, providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President. **Page S8830**

***Convening of 114th Congress, 2nd Session:*** Senate passed H.J. Res. 76, appointing the day for the convening of the second session of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress. **Page S8830**

***Strengthening Education through Research Act:*** Senate passed S. 227, to strengthen the Federal education research system to make research and evaluations more timely and relevant to State and local needs in order to increase student achievement, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8830–31**

McConnell (for Alexander) Amendment No. 2933, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8831**

***Condemning the Government of Iran State-Sponsored Persecution:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 148, condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S8831**

McConnell (for Kirk) Amendment No. 2934, to make a technical correction. **Page S8831**

McConnell (for Kirk) Amendment No. 2935, to make technical corrections. **Page S8831**

***International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through***

***Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders:*** Senate passed H.R. 515, to protect children and others from sexual abuse and exploitation, including sex trafficking and sex tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known sex offender is seeking to enter the United States, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8831–34**

McConnell (for Corker) Amendment No. 2936, to modify the authorization of appropriations. **Page S8834**

***Rural ACO Provider Equity Act:*** Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of S. 2261, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the way beneficiaries are assigned under the Medicare shared savings program by also basing such assignment on services furnished by Federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S8834–35**

***National Guard and Reservist Debt Relief Extension Act:*** Senate passed H.R. 4246, to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days. **Page S8835**

***Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act:*** Senate passed S. 284, to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, after withdrawing the committee amendment, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S8835–36**

McConnell (for Corker) Amendment No. 2937, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S8836**

**Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was

reached providing that when the Senate receives a message from the House to accompany H.R. 2029, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, the Majority Leader be recognized to make a motion to concur in the House amendments; that if a cloture motion is filed on that motion, that notwithstanding rule XXII, Senate immediately vote on the motion to invoke cloture; that if cloture is invoked, all post-cloture time be yielded back, the Majority Leader, or his designee, be recognized to make a motion to table the first House amendment; that following the disposition of that motion, and if a budget point of order is raised, the Majority Leader, or his designee, be recognized to make a motion to waive the point of order, and that following disposition of that motion, Senate then vote on the motion to concur in the House amendments with no further motions or amendments in order, unless the motion to table is successful, or the budget point of order is sustained, and with two minutes of debate equally divided in the usual form prior to each vote. **Page S8750**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Darlene Michele Soltys, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration.)

Robert A. Salerno, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration.) **Pages S8830, S8836**

**Messages from the House:**

**Page S8793**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S8793**

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** **Page S8793**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S8794–95**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**  
**Pages S8795–96**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S8791–93**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S8796–S8830**

**Notices of Intent:** **Page S8830**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S8830**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:17 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, December 18, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's RECORD on page S8836.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### JCPOA IMPLEMENTATION

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the status of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action implementation and related issues, after receiving testimony from Stephen D. Mull, Lead Coordinator for Iran Nuclear Implementation, and Thomas M. Countryman, Assistant Secretary for International Security and Nonproliferation, both of the Department of State; and Lieutenant General Frank G. Klotz, USAF (Ret.), Under Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Security.

### INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 9 public bills, H.R. 4281–4289; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 103; and H. Res. 568–571, were introduced.

**Pages H9690–91**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H9691–92**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a recorded vote of 234 ayes to 155 noes with two answering "present", Roll No. 704.  
**Pages H9433–34**

**Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016:** H.R. 2029, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30,

2016, with the amendments to the Senate amendment specified in section 3 of H. Res. 566, was taken from the Speaker's Table. **Pages H9390–H9433, H9434–H9676, H9693–H10160, H10161–H10471/H10692**

Representative Brady (TX) moved that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2029 with the amendments specified in section 3 of H. Res. 566. **Pages H9399–H9423**

Pursuant to the Rule, the question was divided among the two House amendments, and the portion of the divided question comprising the amendment specified in section 3(b) of H. Res. 566 was considered first. Subsequently, the first portion of the divided question was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 318 yeas to 109 nays, Roll No. 703.

**Pages H9423–33**

Consideration began on the second portion of the divided question, comprising the amendment specified in section 3(a) of H. Res. 566. Further proceedings were postponed until tomorrow, December 18th.

**Pages H9660–76**

H. Res. 566, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2029) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 240 yeas to 185 noes, Roll No. 702, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 244 yeas to 177 nays, Roll No. 701.

**Pages H9379–90**

**Higher Education Extension Act of 2015:** The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3594, to extend temporarily the Federal Perkins Loan program.

**Page H9676**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H9390.

**Senate Referral:** S. 1616 was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

**Page H9689**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H9388–89, H9389–90, H9432–33, and H9433–34. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### TERRORIST TRAVEL: VETTING FOR NATIONAL SECURITY CONCERNS

*Committee on Oversight and Government Reform:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Terrorist Travel: Vetting for National Security Concerns". Testimony was heard from Anne C. Richard, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, Department of State; Michele Thoren Bond, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State; Alan Bersin, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, Chief Officer for the Office of Policy, Department of Homeland Security; and Leon Rodriguez, Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

### NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1322)

H.J. Res. 78, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2016. Signed on December 16, 2015. (Public Law 114–100)

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House

No hearings are scheduled.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Friday, December 18

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

9 a.m., Friday, December 18

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Senate will be in a period of morning business.

## House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Complete consideration of the House amendments to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2029—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016.



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